

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) A water-soluble lubricant for warm or hot metal forming, comprising a high polymer compound comprising at least one imide group and whose weight-average molecular weight is 1,000 to 1,000,000 and the imidation ratio is 1 to 35 molar percent, wherein said high polymer compound is (B) an imidated alpha-olefin and maleic anhydride copolymer obtained by imidating part of a copolymer of maleic anhydride and alpha-olefin.

11. (previously presented) The water-soluble lubricant of claim 10, wherein the content of the high polymer compound is 1 to 70 mass percent per 100 mass percent of the water-soluble lubricant.

12. (previously presented) The water-soluble lubricant of claim 10, wherein said alpha-lubricant is isobutylene.